REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted the above-captioned application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of five claim groups: Group I, including claims 1-3, drawn to a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 2; Group II, including claims 5-6 and 12, drawn to a method for suppressing expression of a PDGF receptor α comprising targeting mRNA of the PDGF receptor α gene using an antisense, ribozyme or maxizyme; Group III, including claims 5-6 and claim 12, drawn to a method for suppressing expression of a PDGF receptor α comprising targeting mRNA of the PDGF receptor α gene using RNAi; Group IV, including claims 8-11 and 13, drawn to a substance for suppressing expression of a PDGF receptor α gene wherein the substance is antisense, a ribozyme or a maxizyme; and Group V, including claims 8-11 and 13, drawn to a substance for suppressing expression of a PDGF receptor α wherein the substance is RNAi.

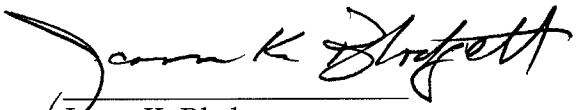
Applicants have amended claims 1-4, 7, and 10-13 to better conform to U.S. patent practice. Support for the instant amendments may be found in the claims as originally filed. For the purpose of claim rejoinder, Applicants have amended method claim 4 wherein, *inter alia*, "using the substance of claim 7" is now recited therein.

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the invention of Group III, encompassing claims 5-6 and 12, for prosecution in the instant application. Applicants respectfully point out, however, that Groups II and III encompass a common set of claims, i.e., claims 5-6 and 12. The Examiner requiring a species election from amongst the use of an antisense, ribozyme, or maxizyme, does not require that the Examiner place the use of RNAi into a separate group, i.e., into Group III. Further, the use of an antisense, ribozyme, maxizyme, and RNAi are all well known to one of ordinary skill in the art in techniques for suppressing gene expression. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the Examiner's restriction between Groups II and III, as distinct inventions, is improper, and therefore that the instant groups should be combined into a single group.

Likewise, Applicants respectfully point out that Groups IV and V encompass a common set of claims, i.e., claims 8-11 and 13. The Examiner requiring a species election from amongst an antisense, ribozyme, or maxizyme, does not require that the Examiner place an RNAi into a separate group, i.e., into Group V. Further, an antisense, ribozyme, maxizyme, and RNAi are all well known to one of ordinary skill in the art as substances that suppress gene expression. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the Examiner's restriction between Groups IV and V, as distinct inventions, is improper, and therefore that the instant groups should be combined into a single group.

Applicants believe that each of claims 1-13 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,
BARNES & THORNBURG LLP



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